

MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
SUBCOMMITTEE FOR THE FORMATION OF A JPAC WORKING GROUP

August 16, 2010  
MAG Offices, Mesquite Room  
302 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Councilwoman Peggy Neely, Phoenix  
Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers, Avondale

Mayor Scott Smith, Mesa  
Mayor Jim Lane, Scottsdale

\* Not present

# Participated by video or telephone conference call

1. Call to Order

The Subcommittee for the Formation of a JPAC Working Group (Subcommittee) meeting was called to order by Councilwoman Neely at 11:04 p.m. Councilwoman Neely stated that public comment cards were available for those members of the public who wish to comment. Transit tickets were available from Valley Metro for those using transit to come to the meeting. Parking validation was available from MAG staff for those who parked in the parking garage.

2. Call to the Audience

Councilwoman Neely noted that, according to the MAG public comment process, members of the audience who wish to speak are requested to fill out the public comment cards. She stated that there is a three-minute time limit. Public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for items that are not on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of MAG, or non-action agenda items that are on the agenda for discussion or information only. Councilwoman Neely noted that no public comment cards had been received.

3. Formation of a MAG Joint Planning Advisory Council Working Group

Councilwoman Neely stated that she believes the Joint Planning Advisory Council (JPAC) projects will help Arizona advance its economy. She stated that creating a MAG working group to provide continuity and guidance on projects related to the JPAC would assist in this effort. Councilwoman Neely suggested that some of the MAG working group duties could include monitoring and providing leadership to the JPAC, promoting quality of life and economic opportunities for the Sun Corridor, and serving as the lead representative for the Punta Colonet project. She also noted that MAG can provide the resources to assist in these projects. Councilwoman Neely stated that we need to begin discussions so that we can locate and utilize our resources here in Arizona. She noted that APL Limited, one of the largest container shipping

companies in the world, relocated to Arizona. She noted that APL is also one of the largest shippers out of the LA/Long Beach port and has expressed interest in a new port in Seattle. She stated that APL is a resource in our own back yard. Dennis Smith noted that APL is the largest shipper on the Union Pacific (UP) rail line. Councilwoman Neely stated that we need to start communicating with businesses like APL and others to see if there are opportunities. She noted that if an inland port is feasible for the region, we may begin to see ancillary businesses locate to the area as a result.

Mr. Smith stated that his concern is that APL will invest in Seattle and put more resources into that region. He noted the importance of taking the next steps and using the tools available to us and looking at the economy and economic development in this region. Mr. Smith noted the importance of collaboration between the private sector and government. He noted the positive results of such collaboration in Proposition 300 and Proposition 400. Councilwoman Neely agreed it is important to focus on the economic opportunities in this region. She gave an example of creating a map of empty warehouses in the Valley and begin by filling those warehouses and building infrastructure to ship out the product. Mayor Lane commented that he believes the working group is a good idea, but is concerned about the political ramifications. He asked if we are looking for a combined governance. Councilwoman Neely stated that the three counties seem to be operating in silos and we need to begin working together. She also noted that trust needs to be gained within the three counties and believes that will evolve by working together to benefit the Sun Corridor. Mr. Smith referred back to Mayor Lane's comment and noted the question is do we want more governance or more government. He noted this effort can begin with governance and may evolve into government in the future. Mayor Lane suggested focusing on a direction. He noted that we need to have a mission. Mr. Smith agreed and also suggested a formal outreach to the business community. Mayor Lopez Rogers suggested reaching out to the Morrison Institute. She noted the Morrison Institute study that was done in 2008 and looks at all aspects of growth and the economy, such as water, land use, transportation, rail, etc. She suggested updating this study. Mr. Smith noted that in the future, we may want to engage members of the Sustainability Communities group currently working on the grant. This effort could be a great resource for the MAG JPAC working group.

Mayor Smith stated that the efforts of this group need to be regional. He noted the big question is how do we get MAG member agencies excited about an inland port in Eloy, for example. Mayor Smith noted the importance of understanding that everyone can benefit from an inland port in Eloy. Councilwoman Neely agreed that we need to communicate that message and raise awareness of these issues. The subcommittee members summarized the mission and focus of the MAG JPAC Working Group.

***Develop an opportunity-specific and action oriented plan that fosters and advances a plan for the Sun Corridor dealing with infrastructure, especially transportation infrastructure that would further economic opportunities.***

The Subcommittee suggested the following list of members be contacted to determine their interest in serving on the MAG JPAC Working Group, and if they would like to be considered for possible appointment by the MAG Regional Council.

- 1) Councilwoman Peggy Neely, Phoenix, Chair

- 2) Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers, Avondale
- 3) Mayor Scott Smith, Mesa
- 4) Mayor Jim Lane, Scottsdale
- 5) (west valley member agency)
- 6) Jim Rounds, Elliot Pollack
- 7) Jeffrey Simmons, Ryley Carlock, Transportation Attorney
- 8) Mary Peters, HDR, ADOT Consultant
- 9) Representative from Thunderbird
- 10) WESTMARC
- 11) East Valley Partnership
- 12) Steve Betts, ULI, GPEC Board Member
- 13) Greater Phoenix Leadership (GPL)
- 14) Joseph Stewart, Chairman, JP Morgan Chase Bank

4. Request for Future Agenda Items

Councilwoman Neely asked if there were any requests for future agenda items. There were none.

5. Comments from the Committee

Councilwoman Neely asked if there were any comments for the committee members. There were no comments.

Adjournment

Mayor Smith moved to adjourn the Subcommittee meeting. Mayor Lane seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. There being no further business, the Subcommittee adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

---

Chair

---

Secretary